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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, THU HA T	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/066,473	AALTONEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thu Ha T. Nguyen	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 May 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *3-6 and 13-28* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *3-6 and 13-28* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *attached herein*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims **3-6 and 13-28** are presented for examination.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on May 16, 2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed November 28, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive because of the following reason:

4. Applicant argues that **Mathews** fails to teach or suggest one or more icons coordinated with the channel's broadcasting, said icons acting as hyperlinks to data relating to a predetermined number of programs recently broadcast on the television channel. In response to applicant's argument, the examiner submits that **Mathews** does teach the feature of one or more icons coordinated with the channel's broadcasting, said icons acting as hyperlinks to data relating to a predetermined number of programs broadcast on the television channel as shown in figure 5, col. 2, line 43-col. 3, line 6, col. 9, line 1-col. 10, line 49 [*channel icons 122 coordinate with television channel's broadcasting and having hyperlinks insert into these icons. Each*

channel icon includes a number of program tile 124]. Figure 5 showing a predetermined number of programs and times which are broadcasted on the particular channel. The examiner assumes that if the client/user is watching the program shows at 8:30 PM then the program shows at 8:30 PM is a current broadcasting program, then the 8:00 PM is a previous broadcasting program and 9:00 PM, 9:30 PM is future broadcasting program. Since Mathews teaches in the display 112 of figure 5 displays all the television programs of the day, thus if the client/user is watching a particular program at a particular time, as assumed above, then the other the programs at the other time should be previous programs and future programs (see Mathews col. 9, lines 14-25).

5. As a result, cited prior art does disclose a system and method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting, as broadly claimed by the Applicants. Applicants clearly have still failed to identify specific claim limitations that would define a clearly patentable distinction over prior art.

6. Therefore, the examiner asserts that cited prior art teaches or suggests the subject matter broadly recited in independent claims 3-6. Claims 13-28 are also rejected at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claims and by other reasons set forth in this office action [see rejection below]. Accordingly, claims 3-6 and 13-28 are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 3-6, 13, 15-17, 19-21, 23-25, and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over **Matthews, III et al.** (hereinafter Matthews) U.S. Patent No. **6,025,837**, in view of **Tomita et al.** (hereinafter Tomita) U.S. Patent No. **6,732,372**.

9. As to claim 3, **Matthews** teaches the invention as claimed, including a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting (col. 5, line 66-col. 6, line 6), comprising:

placing on a webpage one or more icons coordinated with the channel's broadcasting, said icons acting as hyperlinks to data relating to a predetermined number of programs broadcast on the television channel (figure 5, col. 9, line 1-col. 10, line 49 –*channel icons 122 coordinate with television channel's broadcasting and having hyperlinks insert into these icons. Each channel icon includes a number of program tile 124*); and

further placing on the webpage an element relating to programming currently being broadcast on the television channel, said element being coordinated with the channel's broadcasting (col. 7, line 64-col. 8, line 5, col. 9, lines 1-64 –*figure 5 elements 114, 122, 124, 126 coordinate with the channel's broadcasting television programs*).

Matthews teaches a hyperlink (figure 5, element 140) relating to a program recently broadcast on the television channel (col. 9, line 64-col. 10, line 13). However, **Matthews** does not explicitly teach one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel.

Tomita, in the related art, teaches one or more icons (figure 9, buttons 51, 53) acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel (figure 9, icons 51, 53, col. 8, lines 1-65 *–Icons/buttons 51, 53 have an assigned URL in connection with the broadcast-program-information 300).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel, as disclosed by **Tomita**, into **Matthews** system because it were conventionally employed in the art to provide icons acting as hyperlinks relating to program broadcast on the television channel to assist a viewer in navigating among various channels.

10. As to claim 4, **Matthews** teaches the invention as claimed, including a webpage for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting (col. 5, line 66-col. 6, line 6), comprising:

one or more icons coordinated with the channel's broadcasting, said icons acting as hyperlinks to data relating to a predetermined number of programs broadcast on the television channel (figure 5, col. 9, line 1-col. 10, line 49 *–channel icons 122 coordinate*

with television channel's broadcasting and having hyperlinks insert into these icons. Each channel icon includes a number of program tile 124); and

an element relating to programming currently being broadcast on the television channel, said element being coordinated with the channel's broadcasting (col. 7, line 64-col. 8, line 5, col. 9, lines 1-64 *–figure ,5 elements 114, 122, 124, 126 coordinate with the channel's broadcasting television programs*).

Matthews teaches a hyperlink (figure 5, element 140) relating to a program recently broadcast on the television channel (col. 9, line 64-col. 10, line 13). However, **Matthews** does not explicitly teach one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel.

Tomita, in the related art, teaches one or more icons (figure 9, buttons 51, 53) acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel (figure 9, icons 51, 53, col. 8, lines 1-65 *–Icons/buttons 51, 53 have an assigned URL in connection with the broadcast-program-information 300).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel, as disclosed by **Tomita**, into **Matthews** system because it were conventionally employed in the art to provide icons acting as hyperlinks relating to program broadcast on the television channel to assist a viewer in navigating among various channels.

11. As to claim 5, **Matthews** teaches the invention as claimed, including method for purveying information related to a television channel's broadcasting (col. 5, line 66-col. 6, line 6), comprising:

transmitting along with the channel's television programming data relating to that programming (abstract, col. 6, lines 34-58, col. 8, lines 52-67, col. 9, lines 1-55 – *distributing/transmitting a listing of various program tiles 124 (figure 5) and channel tiles 114, 122 (figure 5) along with media content (i.e., digital video)*);

placing the transmitted data in a store of a user's device (col. 7, lines 31-53, col. 9, line 45-col. 10, line 13 –*transmitting data records for programs and channels to the user interface unit (i.e., user's device) and storing/caching in local memory*);

placing on a webpage one or more icons coordinated with the channel's broadcasting, said icons acting as hyperlinks to data relating to a predetermined number of programs broadcast on the television channel (figure 5, col. 9, line 1-col. 10, line 49 –*channel icons 122 coordinate with television channel's broadcasting and having hyperlinks insert into these icons. Each channel icon includes a number of program tiles 124*);

further placing on the webpage an element relating to programming currently being broadcast on the television channel, said element being coordinated with the channel's broadcasting (col. 7, line 64-col. 8, line 5, col. 9, lines 1-64 –*figure ,5 elements 114, 122, 124, 126 coordinate with the channel's broadcasting television programs*).

Matthews does not explicitly teach the step of retrieving the transmitted data from said store in response to the user's request for that data.

However, **Matthews** teaches transmitting data records for programs and channels to user interface unit and caching in local memory (i.e., local cache) at user interface unit (i.e., user's device). The data records for programs and channels can be transmitted in response to viewer requests. The EPG 104 (figure 4) inserts the appropriate data records into the EPG user interface for display as the viewer maneuvers the frame 126 (figures 4-5, col. 7, lines 32-41, col. 9, lines 45-55). It is obvious that **Matthews** implicitly teach the step of retrieving the transmitted data from said store upon receiving user's request because in order the EPG 104 inserts appropriate data record programs and displays at EPG user interface (i.e., at user's device) upon the viewer (i.e., user) maneuvers the frame 126 (figure 4) it has to have the step of retrieving in order to provide and display at EPG user interface. Therefore, it were conventionally employed in the art that **Matthews** using a local cache to store data records in order to retrieve and provide (i.e., display) data to viewer in response to viewer's request because it would have provided an optimized system to reduce load on the network and improve performance of the user interface units (col. 7, lines 32-42).

Matthews teaches a hyperlink (figure 5, element 140) relating to a program recently broadcast on the television channel (col. 9, line 64-col. 10, line 13). However, **Matthews** does not explicitly teach one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel.

Tomita, in the related art, teaches one or more icons (figure 9, buttons 51, 53) acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel

(figure 9, icons 51, 53, col. 8, lines 1-65 –*Icons/buttons 51, 53 have an assigned URL in connection with the broadcast-program-information 300).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel, as disclosed by **Tomita**, into **Matthews** system because it were conventionally employed in the art to provide icons acting as hyperlinks relating to program broadcast on the television channel to assist a viewer in navigating among various channels.

12. As to claim 6, **Matthews** teaches the invention as claimed, including a system for purveying information related to a television channel's broadcasting (col. 5, line 66-col. 6, line 6), comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein (figure 4, program memory 96, col. 8, lines 21-51 –*program memory 96 stores operating system 101, channel navigator application 102, EPG application 104*); and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code (figure 4, processor 92, program memory 96, col. 8, lines 21-67 –*processor 92 connects to program memory 96 and executes on processor 92 by application stored in program memory 96*);

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor (figure 4, col. 8, lines 21-67), causes said processor to perform the steps of:

transmitting along with the channel's television programming data relating to that programming (abstract, col. 6, lines 34-58, col. 8, lines 52-67, col. 9, lines 1-55 – *distributing/transmitting a listing of various program tiles 124 (figure 5) and channel tiles 114, 122 (figure 5) along with media content (i.e., digital video)*);

placing the transmitted data in a store of a user's device (col. 7, lines 31-53, col. 9, line 45-col. 10, line 13 –*transmitting data records for programs and channels to the user interface unit and storing/caching in local memory*);

placing on a webpage one or more icons coordinated with the channel's broadcasting, said icons acting as hyperlinks to data relating to a predetermined number of programs broadcast on the television channel (figure 5, col. 9, line 1-col. 10, line 49 –*channel icons 122 coordinate with television channel's broadcasting and having hyperlinks insert into these icons. Each channel icon includes a number of program tile 124*);

further placing on the webpage an element relating to programming currently being broadcast on the television channel, said element being coordinated with the channel's broadcasting (col. 7, line 64-col. 8, line 5, col. 9, lines 1-64 –*figure ,5 elements 114, 122, 124, 126 coordinate with the channel's broadcasting television programs*).

Matthews does not explicitly teach the step retrieving the transmitted data from said store in response to the user's request for that data.

However, **Matthews** teaches transmitting data records for programs and channels to user interface unit and caching in local memory (i.e., local cache) at user interface unit (i.e., user's device). The data records for programs and channels can be

transmitted in response to viewer requests. The EPG 104 (figure 4) inserts the appropriate data records into the EPG user interface for display as the viewer maneuvers the frame 126 (figures 4-5, col. 7, lines 32-41, col. 9, lines 45-55). It is obvious that **Matthews** implicitly teach the step of retrieving the transmitted data from said store upon receiving user's request because in order the EPG 104 inserts appropriate data record programs and displays at EPG user interface (i.e., at user's device) upon the viewer (i.e., user) maneuvers the frame 126 (figure 4) it has to have the step of retrieving in order to provide and display at EPG user interface. Therefore, it were conventionally employed in the art that **Matthews** using a local cache to store data records in order to retrieve and provide (i.e., display) data to viewer in response to viewer's request because it would have provided an optimized system to reduce load on the network and improve performance of the user interface units (col. 7, lines 32-42).

Matthews teaches a hyperlink (figure 5, element 140) relating to a program recently broadcast on the television channel (col. 9, line 64-col. 10, line 13). However, **Matthews** does not explicitly teach one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel.

Tomita, in the related art, teaches one or more icons (figure 9, buttons 51, 53) acting as hyperlinks related to programs recently broadcast on the television channel (figure 9, icons 51, 53, col. 8, lines 1-65 *–Icons/buttons 51, 53 have an assigned URL in connection with the broadcast-program-information 300).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate one or more icons acting as hyperlinks related to

programs recently broadcast on the television channel, as disclosed by **Tomita**, into **Matthews** system because it were conventionally employed in the art to provide icons acting as hyperlinks relating to program broadcast on the television channel to assist a viewer in navigating among various channels.

13. As to claim 13, **Matthews** teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 3, wherein said element is an icon that acts as a hyperlink (figure 5, elements 114, 122, 124, col. 9, lines 56-64).

14. As to claim 15, **Matthews** teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 3, wherein said element is a frame displaying data (figure 5, frame 126, 128, col. 9, lines 26-44).

15. As to claim 16, **Matthews** teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 3, wherein the predetermined number is selected by the user (col. 9, lines 45-55 *–certain programs and channels can be selectively transmitted in response to viewer requests (i.e., predetermined number programs)*).

16. As to claim 17, **Matthews** teaches a webpage as claimed in claim 4, wherein said element is an icon that acts as a hyperlink (figure 5, elements 114, 122, 124, col. 9, lines 56-64).

17. As to claim 19, **Matthews** teaches a webpage as claimed in claim 4, wherein said element is a frame displaying data (figure 5, frame 126, 128, col. 9, lines 26-44).

18. As to claim 20, **Matthews** teaches a webpage as claimed in claim 4, wherein the predetermined number is selected by the user (col. 9, lines 45-55 –*certain programs and channels can be selectively transmitted in response to viewer requests (i.e., predetermined number programs)*).

19. As to claim 21, **Matthews** teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 5 wherein said element is an icon that acts as a hyperlink (figure 5, elements 114, 122, 124, col. 9, lines 56-64).

20. As to claim 23, **Matthews** teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 5, wherein said element is a frame displaying data (figure 5, frame 126, 128, col. 9, lines 26-44).

21. As to claim 24, **Matthews** teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 5, wherein the predetermined number is selected by the user (col. 9, lines 45-55 –*certain programs and channels can be selectively transmitted in response to viewer requests (i.e., predetermined number programs)*).

22. As to claim 25, **Matthews** teaches the a system for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 6, wherein said element is an icon that acts as a hyperlink (figure 5, elements 114, 122, 124, col. 9, lines 56-64).

23. As to claim 27, **Matthews** teaches the a system for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 6, wherein said element is a frame displaying data (figure 5, frame 126, 128, col. 9, lines 26-44).

24. As to claim 28, **Matthews** teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 6, wherein the predetermined number is selected by the user (col. 9, lines 45-55 –*certain programs and channels can be selectively transmitted in response to viewer requests (i.e., predetermined number programs)*).

25. Claims 14, 18, 22, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over **Matthews, III et al.** (hereinafter Matthews) U.S. Patent No. **6,025,837**, and **Tomita et al.** (hereinafter Tomita) U.S. Patent No. **6,732,372**, further in view of **Kelts** U.S. Publication No. **2002/0112237.**

26. As to claim 14, **Matthews and Tomita** system teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 3. However, **Matthews and Tomita** system does not explicitly teach wherein said icons relating to programs recently broadcast are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast. **Kelts**, in the related art, teaches icons relating to programs recently broadcast (i.e., inactive map items/icons) are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast (i.e., active map items/icons) (figure 1, icon/item 126, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0088-0089, 0067 –*the inactive map items/icons are smaller than the active map item/icon*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the feature of visually distinguishable related to different size by displaying the inactive map items/icons (i.e., the icons relating to programs recently broadcast) are smaller than the active map item/icon (i.e., the icon relating to program currently broadcast), as disclosed by **Kelts** into **Matthews and Tomita** system because it would provide active map item/icon in visually distinguishable way to convey useful information to the user in a quick and easy to interpret and view manner (paragraphs 0079, 0084, 0088).

27. As to claim 18, **Matthews and Tomita** system teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 4. However, **Matthews and Tomita** system does not explicitly teach wherein said icons relating to programs recently broadcast are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast. **Kelts**, in the related art, teaches icons relating to programs recently broadcast (i.e., inactive map items/icons) are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast (i.e., active map items/icons) (figure 1, icon/item 126, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0088-0089, 0067 –*the inactive map items/icons are smaller than the active map item/icon*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the feature of visually distinguishable related to different size by displaying the inactive map items/icons (i.e., the icons relating to programs recently broadcast) are smaller than the active map item/icon (i.e., the icon relating to program currently broadcast), as disclosed by **Kelts** into **Matthews and Tomita** system because it would provide active map item/icon in visually distinguishable way to convey useful information to the user in a quick and easy to interpret and view manner (paragraphs 0079, 0084, 0088).

28. As to claim 22, **Matthews and Tomita** system teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 5. However, **Matthews and Tomita** system does not explicitly teach wherein said icons

relating to programs recently broadcast are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast. **Kelts**, in the related art, teaches icons relating to programs recently broadcast (i.e., inactive map items/icons) are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast (i.e., active map items/icons) (figure 1, icon/item 126, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0088-0089, 0067 –*the inactive map items/icons are smaller than the active map item/icon*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the feature of visually distinguishable related to different size by displaying the inactive map items/icons (i.e., the icons relating to programs recently broadcast) are smaller than the active map item/icon (i.e., the icon relating to program currently broadcast), as disclosed by **Kelts** into **Matthews and Tomita** system because it would provide active map item/icon in visually distinguishable way to convey useful information to the user in a quick and easy to interpret and view manner (paragraphs 0079, 0084, 0088).

29. As to claim 26, **Matthews and Tomita** system teaches the a method for displaying information related to a television channel's broadcasting as claimed in claim 6. However, **Matthews and Tomita** system does not explicitly teach wherein said icons relating to programs recently broadcast are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast. **Kelts**, in the related art, teaches icons relating to programs recently broadcast (i.e., inactive map items/icons) are smaller than the icon relating to programming currently being broadcast (i.e., active map items/icons) (figure

1, icon/item 126, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0088-0089, 0067 –*the inactive map items/icons are smaller than the active map item/icon*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the feature of visually distinguishable related to different size by displaying the inactive map items/icons (i.e., the icons relating to programs recently broadcast) are smaller than the active map item/icon (i.e., the icon relating to program currently broadcast), as disclosed by **Kelts** into **Matthews and Tomita** system because it would provide active map item/icon in visually distinguishable way to convey useful information to the user in a quick and easy to interpret and view manner (paragraphs 0079, 0084, 0088).

Conclusion

30. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure (see PTO-892).

31. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thu Ha Nguyen, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3989. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Najjar Saleh, can be reached at (571) 272-4006.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding

is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thuhanguyen

ThuHa Nguyen
Patent Examiner

September 2, 2006